

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 03796 092209Z

72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /080 W
----- 107556

R 092145Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3543

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 3796

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE'S VIEW OF SELA

1. AT JUNE 5 PRESS CONFERENCE, MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL JAVIER ILLANES, ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO PANAMA MEETING TO CONSIDER SELA, INDICATED GOC'S LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR ANY NEW LA ORGANIZATION.

2. ILLANES SAID THAT GOC WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY ITS AMBASSADOR TO CARACAS (PEDRO DAZA UNTIL RECENTLY CHIEF OF MFA'S ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE) AND THAT CHILE WELCOMES ANY INITIATIVES TO UNITE THIS CONTINENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, CHILE IS, HE SAID, CONCERNED ABOUT A PROLIFERATION OF COMPETING INSTITUTIONS. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT PROPOSED FUNCTIONS OF SELA ARE BEING PERFORMED BY OTHER HEMISPHERE INSTITUTIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, TENTATIVE IDEA FOR SELA TO PROVIDE SYSTEM FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ILLANES OBSERVED, DUPLICATED CIES FUNCTION IN EVERY RESPECT EXCEPT THAT SELA WOULD EXCLUDE US. ILLANES SAID CHILE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN PANAMA TALKS WITHOUT ANY PRIOR COMMITMENT AND WOULD HAVE TO SEE IF ANYTHING POSITIVE CAN BE MADE OF SELA.

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 03796 092209Z

3. ILLANES REVEALED THAT GOC HAD EXPRESSED ITS VIEWS ON SELA FIRST TO EMISSARY OF GOV AND LATER IN LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PINOCHET TO PRESIDENT PEREZ.

4. IN JUNE 9 EDITORIAL CONSERVATIVE TABLOID LA TERCERA TAKES POSITION THAT SELA, THOUGH IT MIGHT EXCLUDE, COULD NOT DISREGARD US SINCE CLOSE TIES WITH AN "ECONOMY IN PERMANENT PROGRESS" WOULD MEAN MUCH BETTER RESULTS FOR LA COUNTRIES.

5. COMMENT: ILLANES STATEMENT REPRESENTS FIRST GOC PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SELA. PRIVATELY, GOC HAS BEEN NEGATIVE ABOUT SELA. AT SAME TIME, GOC HAS RECOGNIZED THAT IT WOULD BE COMPELLED TO JOIN IF CONSENSUS FOR SELA DEVELOPED AMONG OTHER LA COUNTRIES. POPPER

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